

REMARKS

Claims 11- 16 have been allowed by the Examiner.

Claim 2 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the rejected base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 2 has been rewritten as new independent claim 17 that includes all the limitations of the rejected base claim 1. Therefore, claim 17 and all dependent claims thereof are also allowable.

Claim 1 has been cancelled and claim 2 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 1 albeit as computer program product. Therefore, claim 2 and all its associated dependent claims are also allowable.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner.

Date: August 19, 2004

Respectfully requested,

SIEMENS CORPORATION
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830
ATTENTION: Elsa Keller, IP Department
Telephone: (732) 321-3026

By: Thomas George
Thomas George
Registration No. 45,740
Attorney for Applicants
Tel: 650-694-5191
Fax: 650-968-4517